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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE (ALONG WITH ANY PAPER REFERRED TO AS BEING ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED) IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL "POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" BEFORE 5 P.M. ON THE ABOVE DATE IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.Q. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Lori Schepisi

Signature LOW Schepior

Date: December 10, 2004

<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Harvey, et al.

Int. Appln. No:

PCT/US03/18203

Int. Filing Date:

09 June 2003

US Appln. No.:

To Be Assigned

Case No.: 21023P

Art Unit:

Filed:

Concurrently Herewith

Examiner:

For:

ISOLATED NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULE

ENCODING A NOVEL CENTROMERE-

ASSOCIATED MOTOR PROTEIN, AND USES

THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1415 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants request entry of this amendment prior to examination of the above-identified application, which is a 371 of PCT/US03/18203, international filing date of June 9, 2003.

Any fees associated with the submission of this amendment can be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION appears on page 2 of this paper.

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS appears on page 3 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on page 7 of this paper.